

From State Dept. files: counter-revolution's aim

Daily World Washington Bureau
 WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — The U.S. State Department is preparing vast quantities of information on Czechoslovakia gleaned from Czechoslovak radio, TV and newspapers; some of which contains revealing evidence of the counterrevolutionary threat which was developing unchecked in Czechoslovakia.

This information is distributed to the press in the form of a daily magazine titled Daily Report: Foreign Broadcast Information Service.

One article reprinted in the August 6 issue is from the Czechoslovak magazine Mlada Front (14 June 1968, pg. 2) and is titled: "About Anticommunist and Antisocialist Trends in the CSSR." The article cites as an example of counterrevolutionary activity the distribution of a leaflet addressed to the Czechoslovak people on May 3 of this year which states:

"A law should be adopted to ban any communist activity in Czechoslovakia. It should ban the activity of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and should disband it because it is a criminal political party; a fascist party. The law should proclaim communist ideologists K. Marx, F. Engels, V. Lenin, J. Stalin, and the others political mountebanks and imposters..."

This leaflet; the article continues; was signed by "The Founding Committee of the Party

of Czechoslovak True Socialists." Telitale exchange

The article quotes a portion of a public exchange between Deputy Turosik; and Josef Smrkovsky; chairman of the national assembly; over the distribution of this leaflet. Turosik said, "I should like to ask the interior minister and also Comrade Smrkovsky...when and in what way we will begin on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to fight these elements, which in such a way insult the Communist Party and the communists who during World War II did not hesitate to go even to the fascist gallows for the sake of the present... (Audience applause)"

Smrkovsky replied: "This much for Deputy Turosik. Undoubtedly this sort of thing is known both in the Soviet Union and in the western states. Naturally we do all that is necessary to keep informed as well (emphasis my own, T.W.). Undoubtedly, sooner or later the members of the units on the western border of our republic will learn about it too."

The Daily Report also prints verbatim an article by Jaroslav Prasek titled "Both Sides of K-231" which appeared in the June issue of the Prague Reporter. Law 231 was the security law under which thousands were imprisoned during the fifties for alleged counterrevolutionary activities. The K-231 club was formed to rehabilitate unjustly accused victims of the law. But Prasek argues in the article that not all those prosecuted under the law can be rehabilitated because a good number of them were indeed guilty.

Profile of a 'victim'

An outstanding example, Prasek says; is "XY" (name, with-

held) who is now a functionary of K-231 in Liberec.

Prasek states, "XY deserted in 1948 from a military unit; illegally crossed the Czechoslovak border and went to West Germany. He was interrogated in Straubing by CIC workers. He disclosed military information which he possessed, then he went to France and from there to Austria, where he was selected by a former major of the Czechoslovak army named Luza to take a course in the French Intelligence Service.

"On completion of the course he received an assignment from Luza: to cross the border into Czechoslovakia and get information about the location of military units and equipment of the armed forces; and report on our economy. He was arrested in the area of Liberec in 1950.

"Before his arrest, he robbed someone of 20,000 crowns, and got 3,000 crowns from a certain lady, V.T., on the false pretense that he would give money to her son who was abroad. He was sentenced to 18 years in prison and loss of rights as a citizen. He is a functionary of K-231 in Liberec...."

Prasek then explains how "XY" came to the editorial office of Czechoslovak Radio in Usti Nad Labem recently and demanded the right to speak over the radio "about the communists who allegedly did a great deal of harm to him."